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ABSTRACT

This biography for elementary school students highlights the life of Charles Bender (Ojibwe), an American Indian who became a member of the National Baseball Hall of Fame in 1953, and includes his photograph and a map of Minnesota showing his birthplace, Brainard. A teacher's guide following the biography contains background information on baseball and six suggested activities with learning objectives, directions for teachers, vocabulary list, resources list, and an evaluation checklist. (LFL)

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CHARLES ALBERT BENDER

OJIBWE

NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME

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CHARLES ALBERT BENDER

OJIBWE

NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME

Charles Albert Bender was born on May 5, 1884, in Brainerd, Minnesota. His mother was an Ojibwe Indian and his father was of French-English-German descent. He was one of thirteen children.

Charles Albert Bender was well-educated. When he was seven, he left the White Earth Indian Reservation and went to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to attend a school for Indian boys.[1] It was then that he started to engage in one of his favorite hobbies--throwing stones. This is how he laid his foundation as a pitcher.[2] At the age of twelve, he entered Carlisle Indian School, and then attended Dickenson College at Carlisle, Pennsylvania. While attending Carlisle, he participated in football, basketball, track, and baseball.

Since baseball is a seasonal game, his interests spread to many different areas. He possessed a remarkable memory. He was a top-ranking marksman, a skilled hunter and fisherman, an adept golf player, and he played billiards like an expert.[3] Besides being active in sports, he was a clothing salesman.

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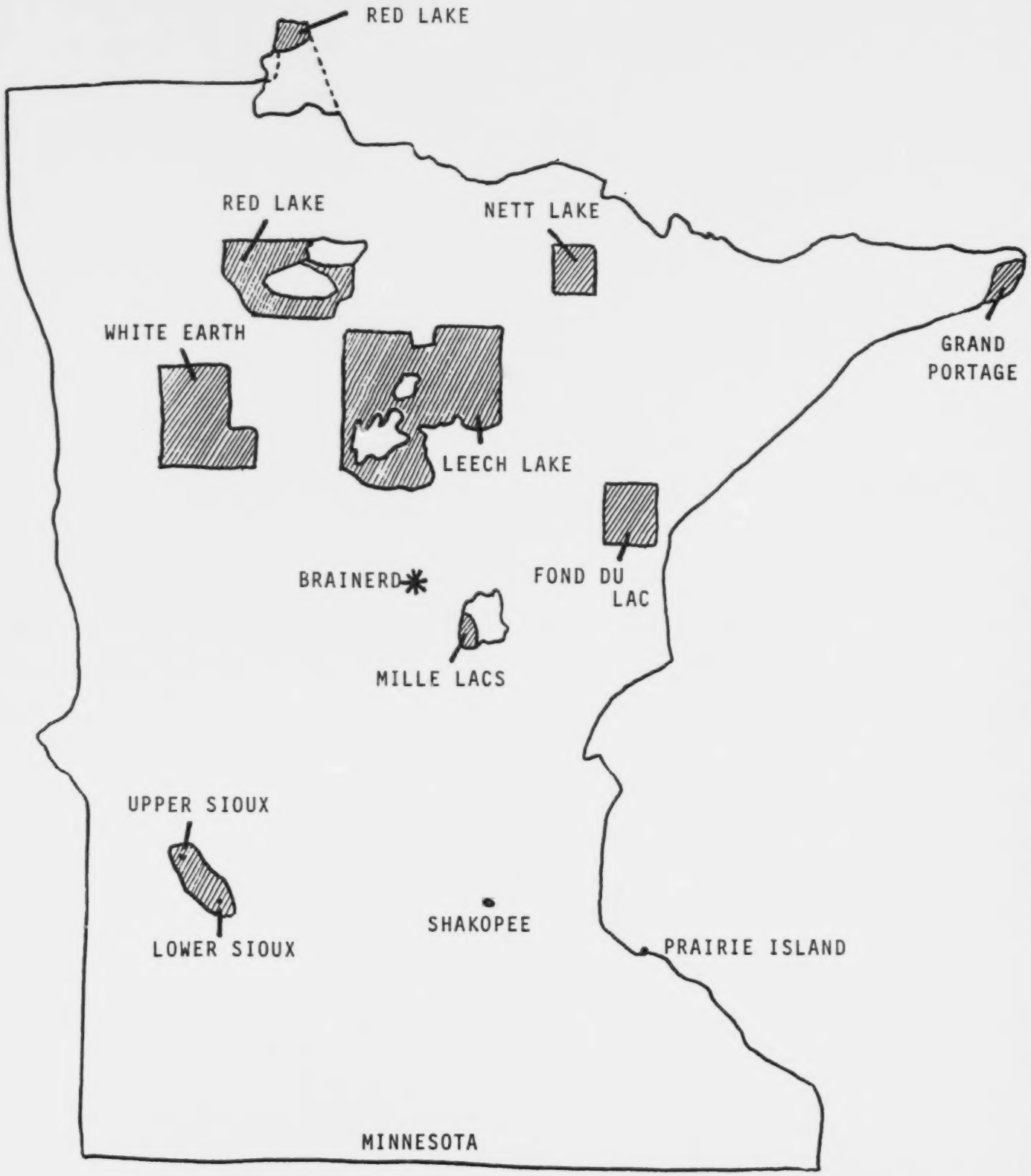
[1]Smith, Ira. Baseball's Famous Pitchers. A.S. Barnes and Co., Inc., Cranbury, New Jersey, 1954.

[2]Spink, J.G. Taylor, "Looping the Loops." The Sporting News. December 30, 1953.

[3]Ibid.



* BIRTHPLACE OF CHARLES ALBERT BENDER

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In this job he learned about textiles and tailoring. He was also a noted expert diamond appraiser in the jewelry business, and an oil painter who sold many of his landscapes. Other interests were gardening and the care of trees.

Charles Albert Bender started his career at Carlisle when he was sixteen, then moved on to the American League in 1903 with the Philadelphia Athletics. His best pitch was the fast ball. He was always calm and relaxed, never nervous or tense. He learned to read the other team's signals without much difficulty. His manager, Connie Mack, could always count on him to win the big ones, "the bigger the stakes, the better he always was." Charles Albert Bender helped his team win five World Series, in 1905, 1910, 1911, 1913, and 1914. He was proud of the fact that no one ever stole home on him.

His greatest year was 1910, when he won twenty-three games and lost five. Bender achieved an all-time record of 208 victories and 112 defeats while in the Major Leagues. After retiring as a player in 1927, he coached the Naval Academy and the Chicago White Sox teams and was active as a public speaker. He was elected to the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in 1953, and died on May 22, 1954 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

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[4]Ibid.

TEACHER'S GUIDE

NATIVE AMERICANS OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY
CHARLES ALBERT BENDER
OJIBWE
NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME

I. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The staff of the Indian Elementary Curriculum Project wishes to thank the following for helping to make this biographical study unit possible:

Patrick Des Jarlait, Jr., Illustrator
The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum for photographs and information about Charles Albert Bender

II. CURRICULUM UNIT

Native Americans of the Twentieth Century -- Charles Albert Bender

III. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Baseball originated from a game called cricket. In Cooperstown, New York in 1839, Abner Doubleday developed the diamond-shaped field with four bases and called the game baseball. In 1876 the National League was formed, and in 1900 the American League was formed. These two leagues are called the Major Leagues.

The American League and the National League each have 12 teams. These teams are divided into two divisions, the Eastern Division and the Western Division, each with six teams.

In the game today, the season begins in April and ends in October with the World Series. Each team cannot have more than 25 players, and they are not allowed to trade after June 15. The season consists of 162 games for each team, half played in their own baseball park and half in their opponents' parks. Each team plays 18 games with each team in their division, and 12 games with each team in the other division.

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When the season is ended, a playoff series between the two divisions of the American League and a playoff series between the two divisions of the National League are played. The winner of three out of five games in each playoff series competes in the World Series. The winner of four out of seven games in the World Series is the world champion.

The members of the American and National League teams are:

American League	National League
Eastern Division	**Eastern Division**
Baltimore Orioles	Chicago Cubs
Boston Red Sox	Montreal Expos
Cleveland Indians	New York Mets
Detroit Tigers	Philadelphia Phillies
Milwaukee Brewers	Pittsburgh Pirates
New York Yankees	St. Louis Cardinals
Western Division	**Western Division**
California Angels	Atlanta Braves
Chicago White Sox	Cincinnati Reds
Kansas City Royals	Houston Astros
Minnesota Twins	Los Angeles Dodgers
Oakland Athletics	San Diego Padres
Texas Rangers	San Francisco Giants

Also see the Charles Albert Bender booklet.

IV. STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Activity One:	Crossword Puzzle
Activity Two:	Baseball Diamond
Activity Three:	Unscramble the Names - American League
Activity Four:	Unscramble the Names - National League
Activity Five:	Fill in the Blanks - American League
Activity Six:	Fill in the Blanks - National League

V. OBJECTIVES

A. Given the background information, the students will correctly identify Charles Albert Bender's tribe, profession, and interests.

B. Given the background information, the students will accurately state that Charles Albert Bender attained one of baseball's highest honors, membership in the National Baseball Hall of Fame.

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C. The students will accurately locate the White Earth Reservation on a map of Minnesota.

D. Given examples of baseball equipment, the students will correctly identify each one.

E. Given Activity Sheet Two, the students will correctly label the positions of a baseball diamond.

F. Using activity sheets three through six, the students will correctly identify the names and locations of the American and National League baseball teams.

VI. MATERIALS NEEDED

A. Charles Albert Bender booklet.

B. Activity Sheets One through Six, duplicated for each student.

VII. DIRECTIONS AND PROCEDURES FOR TEACHERS

A. Tell the students about the life of Charles Albert Bender and discuss the information provided in the student booklet.

B. Have the students locate the White Earth Reservation on a map of Minnesota.

C. Show the students some baseball equipment and discuss factors such as construction and safety.

D. Have the students discuss some of the varied interests and abilities of Charles Albert Bender.

E. Provide the students with the background information about baseball in Section III, prior to introducing the activities. Emphasize the following points: the origin of baseball; the organization of the American and National Leagues; and characteristics of each of these leagues.

F. Distribute the activity sheets to each student. Answers for the teacher are provided on pages I-9, I-11, and I-16.

VIII. CONCEPTS AND VOCABULARY

A. Career - a person's lifework; profession.

B. Defeat - losing.

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C. Descent - family origin.

D. Hobby - something people work at for pleasure in their spare time.

E. Major League - a group of professional athletes made up of the American and National Leagues.

F. National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum - an organization that honors outstanding individual baseball players.

G. Ojibwe - a North American tribe of Indian people also known as Chippewa and Anishinabe (Ah nĭsh´ĭ nah´bā).

H. Victory - winning.

IX. ACTIVITY VARIATIONS

A. Have the students list some of their favorite baseball players.

B. Have the students read books about their favorite baseball players.

C. Have the students compare a Major League game to a Minor League game. List the differences and similarities; for example, the equipment and rules.

D. Have the students attend a major league game or play a game themselves.

E. Have the students gather information about the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum from the library or media center.

F. Have older students discuss baseball with the younger students in the classroom.

X. RESOURCES

Minnesota Historical Society and University of Minnesota, American Indian Studies Department. The Ojibway - A History Resource Unit. St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society, 1973.

Smith, Ira. Baseball's Famous Pitchers. A.S. Barnes and Company, Cranbury, New Jersey, 1954.

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Spink, J.G. Taylor, "Looping the Loops," The Sporting News, December 30, 1953.

Warren, William W. History of the Ojibway Nation. Minneapolis, Minnesota: Ross and Haines, Inc., 1974.

Who's Who in Professional Baseball, "Charles Albert Bender." Arlington House, New Rochelle, New York.

XI. EVALUATION

A. Did the students identify Charles Albert Bender's tribe, profession, and interests?

B. Did the students state that Charles Albert Bender attained one of baseball's highest honors, membership in the National Baseball Hall of Fame?

C. Did the students locate the White Earth Reservation on a map of Minnesota?

D. Did the students identify the examples of baseball equipment?

E. Did the students label the positions of a baseball diamond?

F. Did the students identify the names and locations of the American and National League baseball teams?

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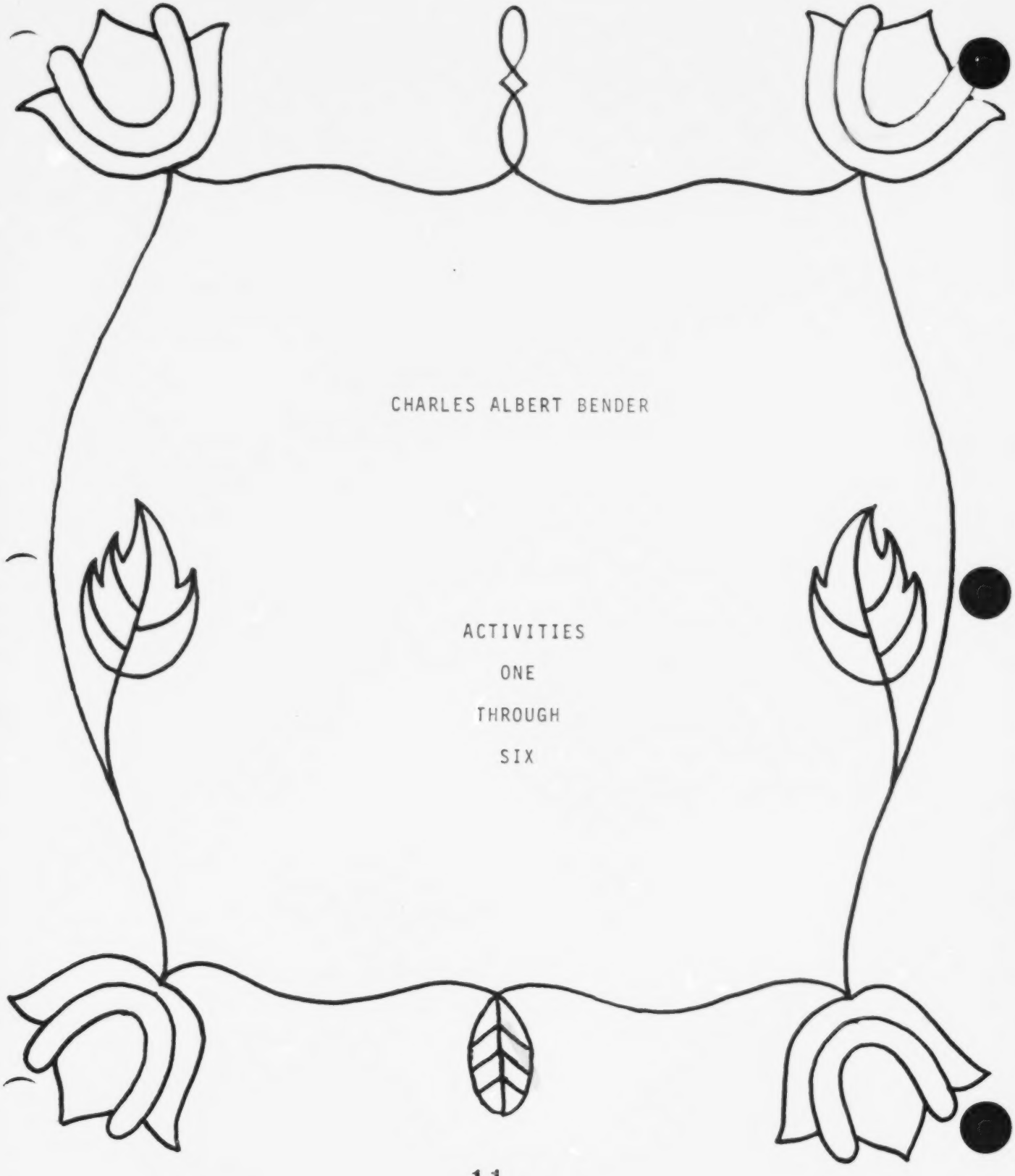

CHARLES ALBERT BENDER

ACTIVITIES

ONE

THROUGH

SIX

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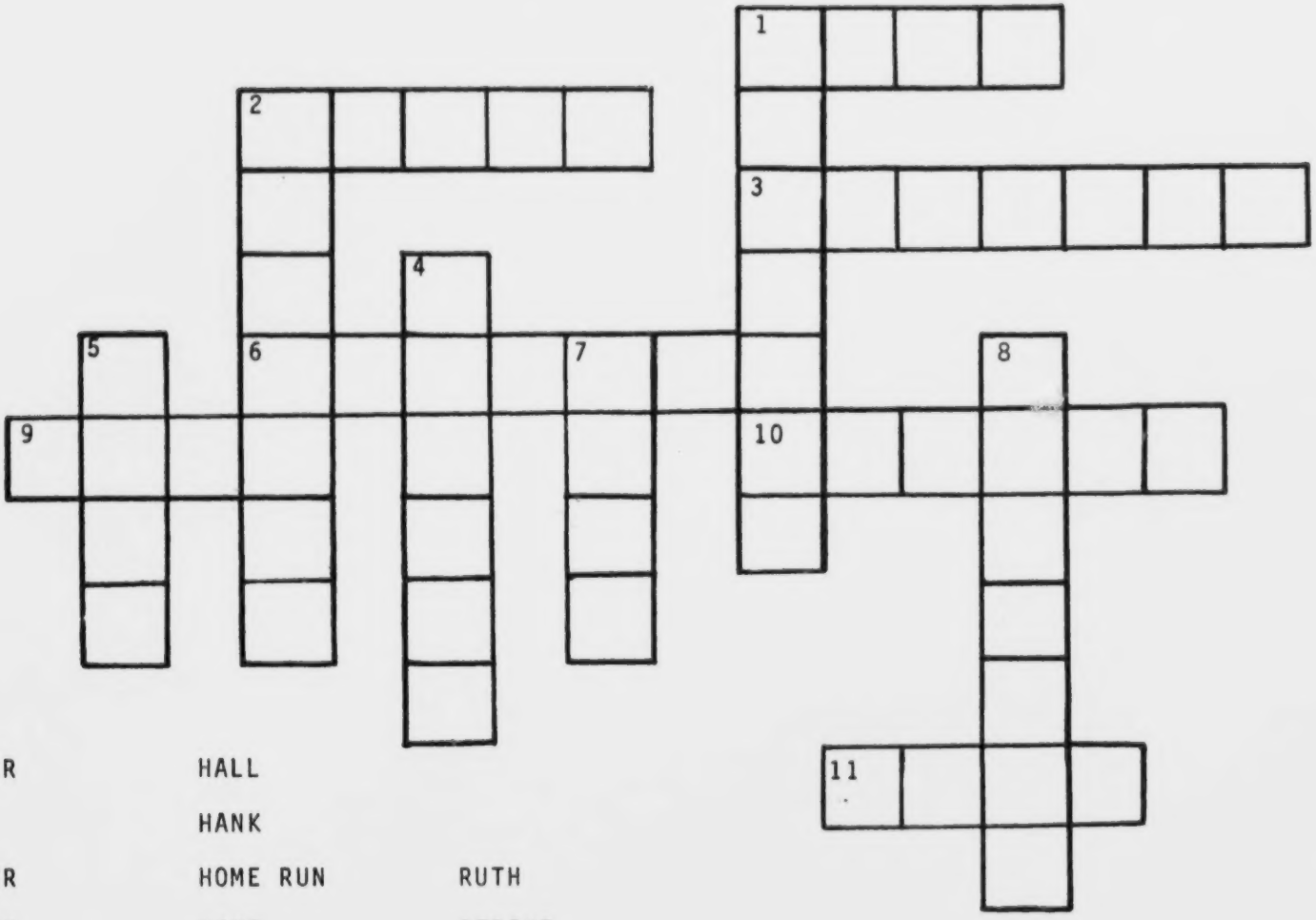
ACTIVITY ONE: CROSSWORD PUZZLE



MANAGER	HALL	
BUNT	HANK	
CATCHER	HOME RUN	RUTH
DIAMOND	NINE	STRIKE
PITCHER	PLATE	UMPIRE

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CHARLES ALBERT BENDER

ACTIVITY ONE: CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES

ACROSS:

1. In 1974 this famous player became the leading home run hitter. _ _ _ _ AARON
2. You step on this to score a run. HOME _ _ _ _ _
3. Person in charge of the team. _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
6. The player who stands behind the batter to catch the ball when it is pitched. _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
9. A very famous player of long ago. BABE _ _ _ _
10. This person calls the balls and strikes and tells if a player is safe or out. _ _ _ _ _ _
11. The number of players on a team. _ _ _ _

DOWN:

1. The batter scores a run on this hit. _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
2. This person throws the ball to the batter to hit. _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
4. Swinging at the ball and missing it. _ _ _ _ _ _
5. Hit the ball lightly into the infield without swinging the bat. _ _ _ _
7. Charles Albert Bender was elected to the National Baseball _ _ _ _ _ of Game.
8. The field is called a baseball _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _.

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ACTIVITY ONE: CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ANSWERS

ACROSS:

1. Hank
2. plate
3. manager
6. catcher
9. Ruth
10. umpire
11. nine

DOWN:

1. home run
2. pitcher
4. strike
5. bunt
7. Hall
8. diamond

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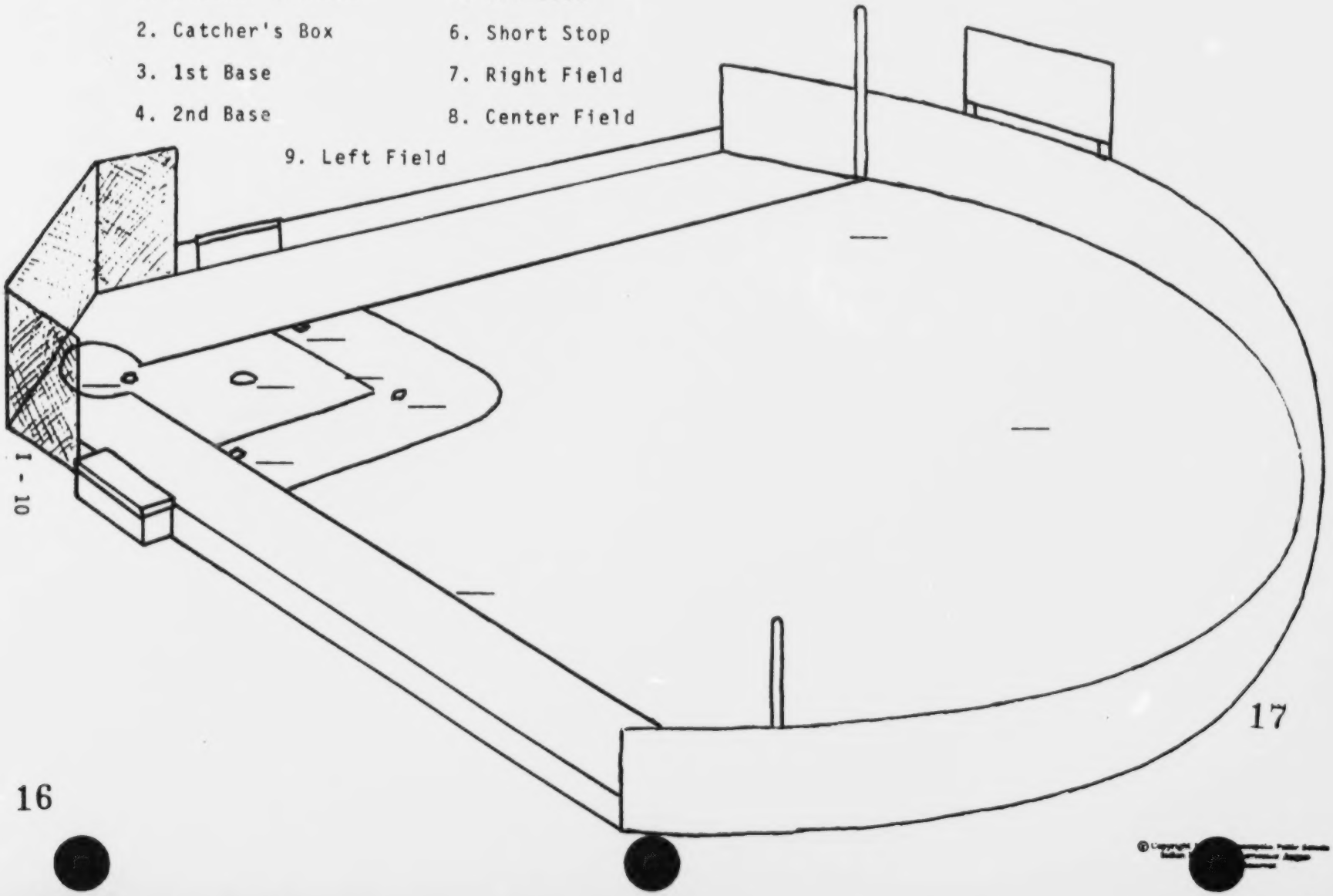
ACTIVITY TWO: BASEBALL DIAMOND

Place the number on the line to show the correct position.

1. Pitcher's Mound
2. Catcher's Box
3. 1st Base
4. 2nd Base
5. 3rd Base
6. Short Stop
7. Right Field
8. Center Field
9. Left Field

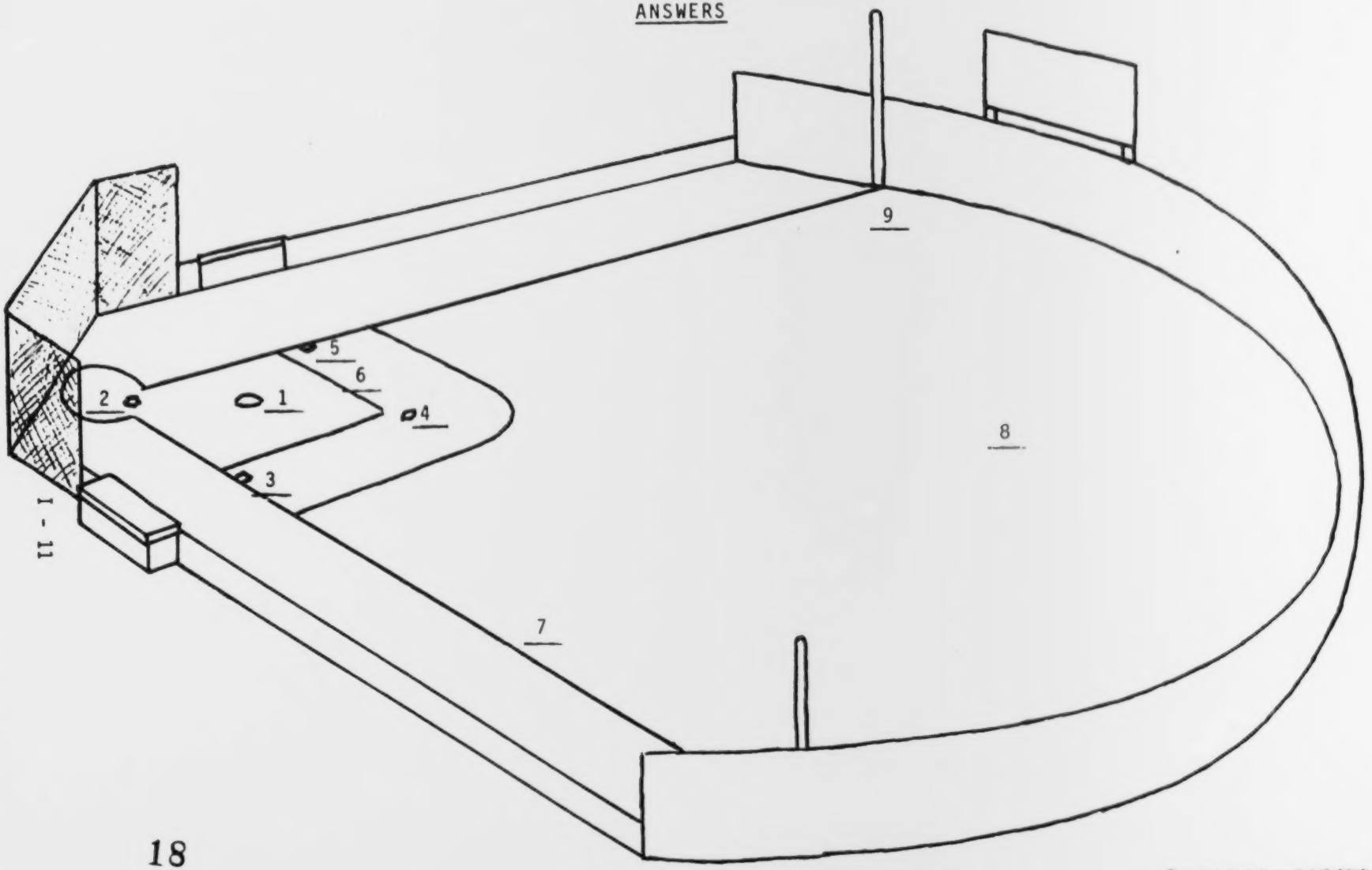


I - 10

CHARLES ALBERT BENDER

ACTIVITY TWO: BASEBALL DIAMOND

ANSWERS



I - 11

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ACTIVITY THREE: UNSCRAMBLE THE NAMES

AMERICAN LEAGUE

CHICAGO		MINNESOTA	BOSTON	
TEHWI	OXS	SITNW	DRE	SXO
_____	___	_____	___	___

KANSAS CITY	TEXAS	OAKLAND
SOLYRA	RARGENS	TELTHAICS
_____	_____	_____

CALIFORNIA	NEW YORK	MILWAUKEE
GAENSL	NEYASKE	WEBRESR
_____	_____	_____

DETROIT	CLEVELAND	BALTIMORE
RITSEG	DANISIN	LOREOIS
_____	_____	_____

CLUES:

ATHLETICS	INDIANS	RED SOX	TWINS
ANGELS	ORIOLES	ROYALS	WHITE SOX
BREWERS	RANGERS	TIGERS	YANKEES

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ACTIVITY FOUR: UNSCRAMBLE THE NAMES

NATIONAL LEAGUE

CHICAGO	SAN FRANCISCO	CINCINNATI
BUSC	TASNIG	DERS
_ _ _ _	_ _ _ _ _ _ _	_ _ _ _
LOS ANGELES	SAN DIEGO	HOUSTON
REDGODS	DAPSER	TARSOS
_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _	_ _ _ _ _ _ _	_ _ _ _ _ _ _
ATLANTA	PHILADELPHIA	PITTSBURGH
VAREBS	LLHPISEI	TARPEIS
_ _ _ _ _ _	_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _	_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
NEW YORK	ST. LOUIS	MONTREAL
STEM	DALCINSAR	SOEPX
_ _ _ _	_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _	_ _ _ _ _

CLUES:

ASTROS	CUBS	GIANTS	PHILLIES
BRAVES	DODGERS	METS	PIRATES
CARDINALS	EXPOS	PADRES	REDS

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ACTIVITY FIVE: FILL IN THE BLANKS

Fill in the blanks with the name of the correct baseball team:

AMERICAN LEAGUE:

CHICAGO _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _	ATHLETICS
MINNESOTA _ _ _ _ _ _	ANGELS
BOSTON _ _ _ _ _ _ _	BREWERS
KANSAS CITY _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _	INDIANS
TEXAS _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _	ORIOLES
OAKLAND _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _	RANGERS
CALIFORNIA _ _ _ _ _ _ _	RED SOX
NEW YORK _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _	ROYALS
MILWAUKEE _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _	TIGERS
DETROIT _ _ _ _ _ _	TWINS
CLEVELAND _ _ _ _ _ _ _	WHITE SOX
BALTIMORE _ _ _ _ _ _ _	YANKEES

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ACTIVITY SIX: FILL IN THE BLANKS

Fill in the blanks with the name of the correct baseball team:

NATIONAL LEAGUE:

CHICAGO _ _ _ _	ASTROS
SAN FRANCISCO _ _ _ _ _ _ _	BRAVES
CINCINNATI _ _ _ _	CARDINALS
LOS ANGELES _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _	CUBS
SAN DIEGO _ _ _ _ _ _ _	DODGERS
HOUSTON _ _ _ _ _ _	EXPOS
ATLANTA _ _ _ _ _ _	GIANTS
PHILADELPHIA _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _	METS
PITTSBURGH _ _ _ _ _ _ _	PADRES
NEW YORK _ _ _ _	PHILLIES
ST. LOUIS _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _	PIRATES
MONTREAL _ _ _ _ _	REDS

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CHARLES ALBERT BENDER

ANSWERS

ACTIVITIES THREE AND FIVE - AMERICAN LEAGUE:

CHICAGO WHITE SOX
MINNESOTA TWINS
BOSTON RED SOX
KANSAS CITY ROYALS
TEXAS RANGERS
OAKLAND ATHLETICS
CALIFORNIA ANGELS
NEW YORK YANKEES
MILWAUKEE BREWERS
DETROIT TIGERS
CLEVELAND INDIANS
BALTIMORE ORIOLES

ACTIVITIES FOUR AND SIX - NATIONAL LEAGUE:

CHICAGO CUBS
SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS
CINCINNATI REDS
LOS ANGELES DODGERS
SAN DIEGO PADRES
HOUSTON ASTROS
ATLANTA BRAVES
PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES
PITTSBURGH PIRATES
NEW YORK METS
ST. LOUIS CARDINALS
MONTREAL EXPOS

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